

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Wimer for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during their August 12, 2005 telephonic interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,100,849 to *Tsubaki et al.* ("*Tsubaki*").

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants propose amending claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1-4 are pending for further consideration.

Summary of the Interview

Applicants' representatives respectfully disagreed with the Examiner over the meaning of the word "connected" as first recited in independent claim 1. *Tsubaki* teaches an antenna which has a dielectric material between the feeding electrode 17 and the first radiation electrode 21. See Fig. 3 of *Tsubaki*. The Examiner argued that the combination of the electrodes and dielectric material constitute a connection. After some discussion, Applicants' representatives proposed amending claim 1 to recite "a feeding electrode, having a first end which is connected and contiguous to the feeding terminal," to clearly distinguish the present invention over the applied reference, *Tsubaki*. The Examiner agreed that such an amendment might overcome the rejections of claims 1-4 over *Tsubaki*.

All Subject Matter Complies with 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over *Tsubaki*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Tsubaki* does not teach or suggest “a feeding electrode, having a first end which is connected and contiguous to the feeding terminal and a second end which is connected to the ground electrode,” as recited in newly amended independent claim 1. Emphasis added. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Applicants amend claim 1 to better clarify the connection between the feeding terminal and the feeding electrode is a contiguous connection. The Office Action alleges that *Tsubaki* shows a feeding terminal and feeding electrode connected via capacitance. Thus, *Tsubaki* cannot teach or suggest all the features of the present invention as amended. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that the third prong of *prima facie* obviousness has not been met.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that newly amended independent claim 1 is distinguishable over the applied art and that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn. In view of the above arguments, the rejection of claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should also be withdrawn, at least because newly amended claim 1 is allowable, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

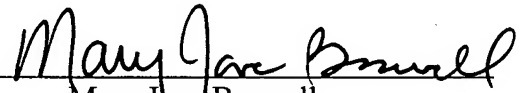
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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